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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
1 December 1967

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The Cyprus Situation  
(As of 4:00 PM EST)

1. Presidential Envoy Vance was scheduled to arrive in Nicosia at 8:00 PM (1:00 PM EST), in an attempt to resolve the objections which Cypriot President Makarios has raised to the latest proposals. Makarios' objections are said to center primarily on the disarming of the Greek Cypriot National Guard and the retention of the Greek and Turkish "legal" contingents. Discussions are also being held at the UN with US, Cypriot, Greek, and Turkish delegates and the Secretary-General.

2. The US Embassy in Athens believes that many Greeks will inevitably regard the decision to withdraw Greek forces from Cyprus as a deep humiliation when the substance of the agreements becomes known. The Embassy has already heard criticism of the government's handling of the crisis from anti-junta Greeks, and has sensed dissatisfaction and bitterness within the military. In the words of one senior Greek officer, never before has Greece backed down in the face of threats from a larger power, and military defeat would have been better than diplomatic surrender. The Embassy speculates that the junta may have to look for scapegoats to justify its action--perhaps Deputy Prime Minister Spandidakis as the person whom General Grivas accuses of authorizing the Ayios Theodoros--Kophinou action, and Foreign Minister Pipinelis as the diplomat who conducted the negotiations.

3. A pro-government newspaper in Athens has published what it claims are the basic points of the agreement to settle the crisis, including the dismantling of the Cypriot National Guard. The papers also says that the Turkish Cypriot community will be given self-government and its

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own police force. Such a provision--not known to be in the actual agreement--would be a major concession to the Turks, and it is difficult to understand why the government would have permitted its publication.

4. In Ankara, the Turkish government reportedly has also released the terms of the agreement. A Foreign Ministry official is quoted as saying that Greece had accepted every Turkish demand, and that "Greece should take a lesson from the affair." Such attempts are not calculated to sooth Greek public opinion, but may be designed as additional pressure to bring Makarios into line.

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